

**A RESOLUTION**

01- R -1600

**BY TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE**

**A RESOLUTION GIVING CONSENT AND APPROVAL  
FOR THE GEORGIA FORESTRY COMMISSION TO  
ALLOW ZOO ATLANTA TO HARVEST RIVER CANE ON  
THE CITY'S PROPERTY IN DAWSON AND PAULDING  
COUNTIES IN SUPPORT OF ZOO ATLANTA'S GIANT  
PANDA PROGRAM; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Atlanta owns certain real property in Dawson and Paulding Counties, Georgia, which is being managed as forest lands by the Georgia Forestry Commission under an Agreement dated July 1, 1975; and

**WHEREAS**, Zoo Atlanta desires to harvest river cane from said forest lands in support of its Giant Panda program, and the Georgia Forestry Commission has requested approval from the City of Atlanta for such activity to be conducted by Zoo Atlanta without charge, pursuant to applicable provisions of the Agreement, as hereinafter set forth.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ATLANTA**, that consent and approval be and hereby is given for the Georgia Forestry Commission, as the City's agent in the management of abovesaid forest lands under said Agreement, to allow Zoo Atlanta to harvest river cane on said forest lands, without charge, in support of its Giant Panda program as an additional source beyond those already in use throughout the State of Georgia.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the foregoing consent and approval shall be subject to the Georgia Forestry Commission's first obtaining agreement Zoo Atlanta to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the City of Atlanta, its elected officials, agents, and employees from and against any and all claims of every kind or character arising from the activities of Zoo Atlanta on City of Atlanta property in connection with the harvesting of river cane.

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** that said consent and approval shall not become binding upon the City of Atlanta, and the City shall incur no obligation or liability hereunder until an agreement containing an indemnification provision pursuant to the foregoing has been signed by Zoo Atlanta and delivered to the Georgia Forestry Commission and the City's Aviation General Manager.

**TRANSMITTAL FORM FOR LEGISLATION**

**To Mayor's Office:** Greg Pridgeon

General Manager's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

From: Originating Department: Aviation

Committee of Purview: Transportation

Committee Meeting: 10/10/01

Contact Person: Charles Fister 404-209-1700

Committee Deadline: 9/24/01

Council Meeting: 10/15/01

**CAPTION:     A RESOLUTION GIVING CONSENT AND APPROVAL FOR  
THE GEORGIA FORESTRY COMMISSION TO ALLOW ZOO  
ATLANTA TO HARVEST RIVER CANE ON THE CITY'S  
PROPERTY IN DAWSON AND PAULDING COUNTIES IN  
SUPPORT OF ZOO ATLANTA'S GIANT PANDA PROGRAM;  
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

**BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION:**

Zoo Atlanta now harvests food for the pandas, including river cane, free of charge from approximately 500 sites around the State, on both public and private property. The closest site is on property owned by a private school near Alpharetta in North Fulton County. It would be helpful to Zoo Atlanta to be able to harvest river cane on the Dawson or Paulding sites because they are closer and thus more convenient to harvest and deliver to the Zoo. They have requested permission from the Georgia Forestry Commission (GFC) to do so.

Under the Agreement for management of the Dawson and Paulding forest lands, GFC handles the harvesting of timber, in accordance with principle and practices of sound forest management, through competitive bidding procedures, and remits the proceeds from the sales to the City. It is not appropriate to handle the request from Zoo Atlanta for river cane in this manner, nor to charge for it; therefore, it is prudent management on the part of GFC to seek specific approval from the City to allow Zoo Atlanta to harvest river cane on City property, as an additional source of beyond those already in use throughout the State. The City's Law Department has advised that, under the Agreement, the Council and Mayor should give such consent and approval on behalf of the City in this matter.

**FINANCIAL IMPACT:**     None

**SOURCE:**     N/A

**Mayor's Staff Only:**

Received by Mayor's Office: 9/25/01 (Date) JP (Initials) \_\_\_\_\_ (Date)

Submitted to Council: \_\_\_\_\_

Action by Committee: \_\_\_\_\_ Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Adversed \_\_\_\_\_ Held \_\_\_\_\_ Amended  
\_\_\_\_\_ Substituted \_\_\_\_\_ Referred \_\_\_\_\_ Other